GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:671
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Comprehensive Development of Tourism
Choudhary Shri Ram Tahal;Giluwa Shri Laxman;Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy;Mishra Shri Bhairon Prasad;Mohammed Shri Faizal P.P.;Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath;Teacher Smt. P.K.Sreemathi

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a tourism plan for the comprehensive development of tourism in the country with the support of State Governments/UTs;
(b) if so, the State/UT-wise details of the steps taken by the Government for the development of tourism in various States along with the tourist spots/places identified by the Government for development of tourism infrastructure;
(c) the details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred in this regard during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
(d) whether the Government has taken any efforts to make budget hotels and to increase the facilities for tourists in various States/UTs including Lakshadweep and Jharkhand; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan and the National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) Schemes for the development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities to promote tourism in the country. As part of the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, theme based circuits are being developed spanning the entire country, for integrated development of tourism infrastructure. The thirteen themes identified for development under this Scheme are the North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit. In so far as PRASAD is concerned, twenty five religious cities/sites have been identified for development which inter-alia include Ajmer (Rajasthan), Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Amritsar (Punjab), Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Badrinath (Uttarakhand), Belur (West Bengal), Deoghar (Jharkhand), Dwarka (Gujarat), Gaya (Bihar), Guruvayoor (Kerala), Hazratbal (Jammu & Kashmir), Kamakhya (Assam), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Katra (Jammu & Kashmir), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Omkareshwar (Madhya Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), Puri (Odisha), Somnath (Gujarat), Srisailam (Andhra Pradesh), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu).

In addition to the above, the Ministry of Tourism was also extending Central Financial Assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits (PIDDC) Scheme which has been delinked from Union Support for States from the financial year 2015-16.

The construction and operation of tourist resorts/hotels is primarily a private sector activity. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, only classifies operational hotels under its voluntary scheme of classification/approval of hotels.

The number of projects, amount sanctioned and amount released under the operative schemes to State Governments/UT Administrations is given at Annexure.

****